

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A portable armrest, for a chair having at least one arm  
5 having an upper surface, a lower surface, two opposing  
longitudinal sides, a front, a rear, and a width between the  
longitudinal sides, for use by a user having at least one  
arm, for cushioning the at least one arm of the user while  
sitting in the chair, comprising:

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a substantially rectangular pad substantially  
constructed from a soft material, having an upper surface, a  
substantially flat lower surface, two opposing lateral sides,  
a front, and a rear;

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a substantially rectangular rigid base having a  
lower surface, and an upper surface upon which the lower  
surface of the pad is attached, said base for supporting the  
pad; and

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a pair of substantially U-shaped brackets, each  
having a substantially rectangular upper portion having a top  
surface and a bottom surface, said top surface having two  
opposing edges, two opposing flexible side portions, and two  
25 inwardly extending lips, wherein the top surface of each  
bracket is rigidly attached to the lower surface of the base,  
and wherein the flexible side portions of each bracket extend

vertically downward from the bottom surface of the upper portion of the bracket, the flexible side portions define an inside opening therebetween having an inside opening width, wherein each side portion has a lower portion, the lip  
5 extending inwardly therefrom, wherein the lips are opposed to each other, wherein when extended upon an arm of a chair having a width substantially the same as the inside opening width, the opposing side portions of each bracket rest substantially flush against the opposing longitudinal sides  
10 of said at least one arm of said chair, and each of said pairs of opposing lips of each of said brackets tightly engage the lower surface of said at least one arm of the chair after pressing the portable armrest downward against the upper surface of said at least one arm of the chair,  
15 thereby preventing the portable armrest from inadvertently slipping off of said at least one arm of the chair during use.

2. The portable armrest as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
20 bottom surface of the upper portion of the brackets, the opposing side portions of the brackets, and the lips of the brackets selectively engage the upper surface, the longitudinal sides, and the lower surface, respectively, of the at least one arm of the chair.

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3. The portable armrest as recited in claim 2, wherein the pad is substantially constructed from a foam material.

4. The portable armrest as recited in claim 3, further comprising a strap assembly, having a strap attached in proximity to one of the lateral sides of the pad, and a strip  
5 of fastening material attached in proximity to the other lateral side of the pad, wherein the strap has an attached strip of fastening material, wherein the portable armrest is selectively secured to the arm of the chair by wrapping the strap around the lower surface of the arm of the chair and  
10 mating the strip of fastening material on the strap with the strip of fastening material attached in proximity to the other lateral side of the pad.

5. The portable armrest as recited in claim 3, further  
15 comprising a strap assembly, having a pair of opposing straps, wherein each of the straps is attached in proximity to a different one of the opposing lateral sides of the pad, and wherein each strap has a strip of fastening material attached thereunto for mating the straps together, wherein  
20 the portable armrest is selectively attached to the arm of the chair by use of the brackets, and additionally by wrapping the opposing straps around the lower surface of the arm of the chair and mating the straps by mating the strip of fastening material on one of the straps with the opposing  
25 strip of fastening material on the other strap.

6. A method of using a portable armrest, by a user having at least one arm, in conjunction with a chair having at least one arm having an upper surface, a lower surface, two opposing longitudinal sides, a front, a rear, and a width  
5 between the longitudinal sides, for cushioning the at least one arm of the user while sitting in the chair, said portable armrest having a pad having an upper surface, a substantially flat lower surface, two opposing lateral sides, a front, a rear, said portable armrest also having a substantially  
10 rectangular rigid base having a lower surface and an upper surface upon which the lower surface of the pad is attached, said armrest additionally having a pair of substantially U-shaped brackets, each having a substantially rectangular upper portion having a top surface and a bottom surface,  
15 wherein the top surface of the bracket is rigidly attached to the lower surface of the base of the pad, and wherein the bottom surface of the upper portion of the bracket has two opposing, flexible side portions extending vertically downward therefrom, which together define an inside opening  
20 therebetween having an inside opening width, wherein each side portion has a lower portion, each having an inwardly extending lip extending therefrom, wherein the lips are opposed to each other, said method comprising the steps of:

25           positioning the portable armrest above the upper surface of the arm of the chair, with the two opposing side portions of each of the brackets extending vertically

downward alongside the longitudinal sides of the arm of the chair;

attaching the portable armrest to the arm of the  
5 chair by engaging the lower surface of the arm of the chair  
with the lips extending from the lower portion of the side  
portions of the brackets by flexing and separating the side  
portions by pressing the portable armrest vertically downward  
against the upper surface of the arm of the chair, and moving  
10 the side portions downward alongside the longitudinal sides;  
and

cushioning the at least one arm of the user by  
resting the at least one arm of the user upon the upper  
15 surface of the pad.

7. The method of using a portable armrest as recited in claim  
6, wherein the step of attaching the portable armrest to the  
arm of the chair comprises attaching the portable armrest by  
20 longitudinally slipping the arm of the chair through the  
portable armrest by extending one of the longitudinal sides  
of the arm of the chair through the inside opening.